ECFS - Email Filing <PROCEEDING>96-45 <DATE>02/08/2005 <NAME>Leila Smith <ADDRESS1>9775 W. Golf Port Drive <ADDRESS2> <CITY>Stanwood <STATE>MI <ZIP>49346 <LAW-FIRM> <ATTORNEY> <FILE-NUMBER> <DOCUMENT-TYPE> RC <PHONE-NUMBER>231-972-2829 <DESCRIPTION> <CONTACT-EMAIL>leilasmith62 <TEXT>I do not want to pay more for my telephone service! I urge you to reject a flat fee proposal that would change how contributions are made to the Universal Service Fund. I am concerned that this proposal could make my current service unaffordable.

Under the flat fee proposal you are considering, people who make few long distance calls would pay the same as people or businesses that make many calls. In other words, low-volume and primarily residential customers would bear the same universal service fund burden as a high-volume residential or business customers. This is unfair! It is just another instance of robbing the poor to finance the corporate rich.

I use my wireless phone for safety, security and convenience. I am a senior citizen & my spouse has a heart problem. We have our cell phone for health reasons, so that we always have access to help. We use pre-paid phone cards for long distance, because we cannot afford long distance service, but we live in a rural area where our healthcare providers and our children are all long distance calls. I don't want to lose these benefits so that big businesses can pay less than their fair share. I urge you to reject the proposal to move the USF collection system to a flat-fee.

Keep the USF Fair!

Sincerely,

Leila Smith 9775 W. Golf Port Drive Stanwood, Michigan 49346-9412